

**Abstract of the Invention**

A system with an electromechanical lock, such as a vending machine, has a back up power supply for use in the event power failure and includes a sleep mode for a microcontroller associated with a vending machine. Specifically, a switch decouples the microcontroller from the battery when a power interruption is detected and thus inhibits most power draining functions. A sensor associated with the electromechanical lock detects the presence of a key and draws enough power from the battery to operate the electromechanical lock such that a key user may access the interior of the vending machine.

4673-015-15